

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Commission**

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**ITEM**

**16**

**INFORMATION**

**TOPIC**

**Chapter 567 IAC 91— Priorities Clean Water State Revolving Fund  
Loans**

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Chapter 91 contains a priority ranking system developed for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. This same system is used to determine which projects should receive limited grant funds from the Iowa Finance Authority Wastewater Treatment Financial Assistance Program (WTFAP).

The current priority system was in place before WTFAP was created and inadequately reflects the need for financial assistance when communities apply for the WTFAP grant. Water quality standards are a major component of the priority system but the priority system is not consistent with the recently changed standards. Water quality standards are continually evolving. The WTFAP program is Iowa's response to help communities finance improvements necessitated by changes in the water quality standards.

The purpose of this rule making is to remove the priority system from Chapter 91 and add it to the annual Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP). This action would increase the program's ability to respond to changes. The priority system would be reviewed once a year, updated as necessary and included in the IUP. The IUP process provides opportunities for stakeholder input through public comment public hearings and through review and approval by the Environmental Protection Commission.

In recent years other State Revolving Fund policies, such as interest rates and terms, have been removed from rules and addressed in the Intended Use Plans. This has allowed the SRF programs to be more responsive and effective in providing assistance to communities and meeting Iowa's water quality goals.

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